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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. On a night during the last week of April 1952, Reichsbahn Director Richard Staimer and a group of 20 SSD investigators searched the Main Office of the Reichsbahn. Immediately thereafter, (fnu) Richter, head of Department IV, Maschinentechnik, was suspended; on 3 May he was arrested at his home. (fnu) Unglaube* and (fnu) Kakuschke of the same department were arrested while at work in their offices. One other person, employed in Department IX, Material-Versorgung, was also arrested. It is thought that these arrests are connected with the case of President (fnu) Oelkers and Vice President (fnu) Wendt; these two have been sentenced to ten years imprisonment for closing a Leipzig roundhouse without SCC approval. It was charged that the shutting of the roundhouse caused serious traffic disturbances.
2. The SSD also searched the offices of RBD Berlin. Instances of security violations led to serious threats and accusations. President Willi Barth, however, has attempted to clear the accused officials with the explanation that division offices do not have enough safes. Barth stated that there was insufficient secure space to store such documents as the Basa Netz plans which were found in open cabinets.
3. Reichsbahn Director Richard Staimer announced at an internal SSD meeting that he would shortly withdraw from his position in the Reichsbahn**.
4. It is rumored that Reichsbahn Director General Erwin Kramer is to succeed Prof. Dr. Hans Reingruber as Minister of Transport.
5. The Reichsbahn Main Office has issued an order that all offices in the system must purge all administrative personnel who a) have been held prisoner in West Germany for over six weeks; b) were interned by any Western power during or after the war; c) have any close relatives living in West Germany or a Western country.

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6. The first coal-dust-burning passenger locomotive, model 03, was recently finished at RAG Wilhelm Pieck in Chemnitz. It is to be named "Erwin Kramer".
7. The boiler of a model 52 freight locomotive recently exploded in RAW Leipzig-Engelsdorf. Two persons were killed.
8. The "Blue Express" which carries Soviet officers between Germany and Russia is operated entirely by Russian personnel. It is made up of five special passenger coaches, one baggage car, one mail car, and one brigade personnel car. There are three such trains and each is pulled by a model 01 passenger engine. The trains are based at Seddin and are serviced there. They depart from Wildpark and run via Grossbeeren and Frankfurt/Oder to Brest-Litovsk. Eight extra coaches are held in reserve at Seddin.
9. Material for car repairs is so scarce that the Reichsbahn is considering negotiating with the West Berlin Vereinigte Werkstätten, Berlin-Wittenau, for repair work.

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* [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] Instead of Unglaube it may be Ungnade who is listed in the directory of Reichsbahn Main Office personnel as deputy to Richter in Department IV.)

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** ([REDACTED] Comment: Since Staimer is a military man by profession, it is possible that his announced withdrawal from the Reichsbahn is in connection with the establishment of the new East German army.)

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